



Montgomery County Council

***From the Offices of Councilmembers
George Leventhal and Michael Knapp***

For Immediate Release

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**COUNCILMEMBERS RELEASE COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF SENIOR
HOUSING & OTHER VULNERABLE SITES TO PEPCO TO RESPOND TO
FUTURE POWER OUTAGES**

Councilmembers George Leventhal and Michael Knapp today officially released to public utilities a comprehensive list showing complete information about housing sites for seniors and other vulnerable people, as well as health facilities, throughout Montgomery County for use by the utilities in responding to those most in need during any future power outages.

The 26-page list, which itself is confidential due to emergency information about locations and phone numbers contained within, has been supplied to all major utilities and communications technology companies serving the County. It includes health care facilities, senior assisted living and nursing homes, group homes for the vulnerable and home care providers.

"During last August's storms and during Hurricane Isabel, many residential facilities serving seniors were without power for significant periods," said Councilmember Leventhal, who chairs the Council's Health & Human Services Committee. "About a dozen facilities -- including Holly Hall in Silver Spring, Leafy House in North Bethesda, Kensington Park, and a number of smaller group homes -- were without power for more than 24 hours, without backup power for heating, cooling, food storage and preparation, and elevators. Vulnerable people were at risk."

"We wanted to ensure this list was compiled so that our utilities will know exactly where these facilities are and how to be in contact with them during an emergency to determine their needs," said Councilmember Knapp, who chairs the Council's Homeland Security Committee. "In this way Pepco and others can more effectively give priority to our most vulnerable populations for service restoration." # # #